

## NEW YORK HERALD.

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving place—ITALIAN OPERA—NORMA.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—NANCISSA.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—Dor. OR. THE GHOST ON THE HEARTH.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway—HAMLET.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—KING LEAR—TOMMY AND GRACE—A NEW YORK.

WATKINS THEATRE, Broadway—ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD—INFANT PRODIGES.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—THE STRIPPERS OF NEW YORK.

POWERLY THEATRE, Bowery—DANA TRIST—MOMENTOUS QUESTION—HAPPY ANDY.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM, Broadway—TWO MAMMOTH PAIR WORKS—LIVING SKELTONS—DWARF—GIANT BOY—THE WORKMAN OF NEW YORK—Day and Evening.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanic's Hall, 472 Broadway—Ethiopian Songs, Dances, Burlesques, &amp;c.—L.A. BURLINGAME.

WOOD'S MINSTREL HALL, 814 Broadway—Ethiopian Songs, Dances, &amp;c.—PETERBURN, OR OIL ON THE BRAIN.

HOOKEY'S MINSTRELS, 129 and 201 Bowery—Songs, Dances, Burlesques, &amp;c.—THE INDICATOR'S FAMILY.

SALLE DIABOLIQUE, 552 Broadway—ROBERT HALL'S MIRACLES—OTHELLO.

VAN AMBURGH &amp; CO'S MAMMOTH MENAGERIE, 125 and 241 Broadway—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

HIPPODROME, Fourteenth street—EQUESTRIAN, GYMNASTIC AND ACOBATIC ENTERTAINMENTS—THE FINEST OF THE ARTISTS.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway—Ballets, Pantomimes, Burlesques, &amp;c.—MARIO FALCONE.

DOWDORTH HALL, 80 Broadway—BARNUM'S EVENING OF MIRTH AND PATHOS.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 418 Broadway—Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.

New York, Thursday, March 16, 1865.

## THE NEW TAX LAW.

The new Internal Revenue law, so important to the interests of the country and of every individual, will be published in the WEEKLY HERALD of this week. It is alphabetically arranged, and will be found very valuable and useful to all taxpayers. Single copies, in wrappers, five cents. Agents are requested to hand in their orders to-day.

## THE SITUATION.

The announcement of General Sherman's safe arrival at Fayetteville, N. C., contained in our Newbern despatch in yesterday morning's HERALD, is confirmed in our Wilmington and Fortress Monroe despatches published this morning. He had fought no battle since leaving Savannah, for the reason that the rebels knew it would be futile to attempt to arrest his progress, and in all his long and magnificent march from the coast through the interior had met with no serious opposition. A company of rebel scouts kept in his front and a division of cavalry hung on his rear up from Columbia, S. C.; and these constituted the formidable lions which rebel journals have assured us he would find in his path. His troops are in fine condition, and have lived as abundantly as on their Georgia tramp, abundance of provisions being found in the country penetrated. Fayetteville is on Cape Fear river, eighty miles above Wilmington, and boats started up from the latter place on Saturday, last to remove the obstructions and open water communication with Sherman's army. One of these obstructions is the sunken pirate Chicksauga.

The good news from Schofield's army continues to come. Yesterday we chronicled the retreat of Bragg's rebels before it to the north side of the Neuse river, at the town of Kinston. To-day we have the announcement of Bragg's retreat from that place and his occupation by the national forces. No particulars have been received, and we have not learned whether the rebels stopped to give battle after Schofield's men had crossed the river in pursuit of them; but it is most likely that they did not. The place is said to have been occupied by Schofield's army on last Monday.

President Lincoln, by an order issued from the Department of State, has directed the immediate arrest of all persons found in the country who have been engaged in or connected with the rebel blockade running trade. Those of the offenders who are citizens or resident aliens are to be imprisoned during the continuance of the war, and such of them as are non-resident foreigners are to be banished from the country, not to return while the war lasts, under a penalty similar to that of the first named class.

In the lines of the armies of the James and the Potomac affairs still remain comparatively quiet. There was some brief shelling on both sides before Petersburg for a short time on Monday afternoon, without result of consequence. The rebels are still hard at work strengthening their James river iron-clad fleet, under the personal supervision of Captain Semmes. Iron plates for the extra coating of these vessels are being sent down from Richmond. The rebels continue to advance in large numbers into Grant's lines, in the character of deserters. They report that fresh orders have recently been issued for Lee's men to be ready to march at the shortest notice.

There were rumors in Washington yesterday that rebel peace commissioners had arrived at City Point from Richmond; but they could not be traced to a reliable source.

In conformity with the recent proclamation of the President pardoning army deserters who return to duty, Provost Marshal General Fry has issued circulars to his subordinates directing them to give prompt attention to the reception and forwarding of such of these deserters as may report themselves.

The Canadian Finance Minister, in a recent speech, said that while the American war lasted Canada must keep a permanent force on the border, to preserve friendly relations with the United States. The Parliament has voted three hundred thousand dollars for frontier volunteer expenses and one million dollars for the defence of the province.

A Union cavalry and artillery force which went out from Suffolk, Va., on last Friday into rebel territory penetrated as far as Murfrees station, the terminus of the Seaboard and Roanoke Railroad, where they effected considerable damage to the enemy by the destruction of the railroad track, depot, warehouses, fifty bales of cotton and much other property of value. The force returned safely to Suffolk on the following day, having suffered scarcely any loss.

A fight was reported as in progress yesterday afternoon at Brandenburg, Kentucky, on the Ohio river, between a small force of national troops stationed there and a party of rebels; but the fight had not been learned.

San Mandy, alias Jerome Clark, the somewhat notorious Kentucky rebel guerilla, who was recently captured by a detachment of national troops, has been tried by court martial and sentenced to be hanged to-day.

## EUROPEAN NEWS.

The steamship *Peruvian*, from Liverpool March 3, reached Portland yesterday. Her news is two days later.

American advices dated on Saturday, the 15th of February, reporting the capture of Branchville by General Sherman, the rumor of the death of General Beauregard,

and the exploit of Commander Cushing off Wilmington, had been received in England; but they exercised no material influence on the markets.

The Australian had reached England, with news from New York to the 23d of February, announcing the capture of Charleston; but her report was not made public when the *Peruvian* sailed.

The opening of the telegraph line to India was announced in England. Messages from Calcutta had reached Constantinople in twelve hours, and a telegram from Kuch-rach was delivered in England in eight and a half hours.

The Russian territory bordering on Central Asia had been formed into provinces, under the title of Russian Turkistan.

The English funds continued dull, and securities generally declined. The Bank of England reduced its rate of discount from five to four per cent, but no material effect was produced. Consols closed in London on the 3d inst. at 85½, a 40 for money. The Liverpool cotton market lost its buoyancy at the close of the week, and became very dull, at a decline ranging from one-half to one penny on American descriptions. On the 3d inst. the market closed dull, with prices unchanged. Broadwells were very dull. Provisions were steady.

Satterthwaite's Circular of the last instant reports a decline in American securities, owing to an overstocked market.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

The State Senate yesterday reported favorably upon the bills for the improvement of certain portions of New York not yet surveyed; for the improvement of Brooklyn Heights; authorizing the creation of a new Capital; and for the improvement of the Court of Appeals and Supreme Court; relative to the New York and Westchester county Railroad; the general State Appropriation bill; amending the charter of the East New York and Jamaica Railroad Company. Bills were introduced to amend the charter of the Accidental Insurance Company; relative to the foreclosure of mortgages by advertisement; incorporating the Harry Howard Association of Exempt Firemen; and relative to the custody and disposition of the estates of insane persons, idiots and drunkards. Bills were passed increasing the rate of interest on Brooklyn Bonds; amending the Brooklyn Sewerage act; increasing the capital stock and extending the charter of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company; for the improvement of Leonard street, Brooklyn; incorporating the Knickerbocker Gas Company; and authorizing all horse railroads in the State, except those in New York city and Brooklyn, to increase their rates of fare forty per cent. The New York City Levy bill was made the special order for to-morrow noon. Bills were introduced relative to the Croton Aqueduct in New York and to change the grade of streets affected thereby; and to equalize the fare on the Brooklyn horse railroads. Resolutions were offered asserting the Monroe doctrine in regard to Mexico and its occupation by Maximilian, which were tabled. In executive session the nominations of C. W. Goddard, as Captain of the Port of New York; of N. P. Pond, Henry H. Hulet, John Cashow and James H. Thompson, as Harbor Masters, were confirmed. The appointment of Benjamin B. French, and E. P. Brooks, as Canal Appraisers, were reconsidered.

In the Assembly bills were reported to amend the act establishing a quarantine for the port of New York; to prevent the smallpox; for the acquisition of lands for the Croton Aqueduct; to incorporate the Metropolitan Mail Company; for a horse railroad from Flushing to College Point; relative to the taxation on moneyed and other corporations; to amend the charter of the Blind Mechanic's Association of New York; and to incorporate the New York Transit Company. An adverse report on the bill for the better regulation of the firemen in New York city was introduced, when, on motion, the report was laid upon the table for the purpose of permitting the minority to report, by a vote of 76 to 35. Bills were passed to amend the charter of the Brooklyn Mercantile Library Association; to amend the act regulating the pilotage of the port of New York; to amend the charter of the City Fire Insurance Company of New York. The Senate bill to amend the General Bounty law, so as to give substitutes furnished by drafted men the same bounty as volunteers, was agreed to. Bills were introduced for the improvement of Dock street, Brooklyn; to amend the Soldiers' Voting law; also to exempt persons in the employ of telegraph companies from militia or jury duty.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

Our people were considerably surprised yesterday by the commencement of drafting in this city; for, although it was the day to which the operation had been postponed by the Assistant Provost Marshal General, it was not generally known that the order to proceed with it had been received from Washington. However, the drawing was begun in the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Eighth Congressional districts, and the offices of the provost marshals were filled with anxious but orderly crowds of citizens. The number of men required to fill the city's quota is thirteen thousand. To this one hundred per cent is added to cover anticipated exemptions. Therefore twenty-six thousand names altogether will be drawn from the wheels of the six city districts. Drafting will be continued to-day; but it is said that while volunteer-ings keep as brisk as it is at present the drafted men will not be called upon for service.

The steamship *Ocean Queen*, from Aspinwall on the 7th inst., arrived here yesterday, bringing over four hundred thousand dollars in specie, the mails and the passengers who left San Francisco on the 23d ult., the latter having been less than twenty days on the passage. This is the shortest time that has been made between the two cities during the past ten years.

The news from South and Central America is interesting, the military steps for a couple of additional South American republics having been taken. The government of Colombia has declared war against the republic of Ecuador, for violations of the territory of the former by armed bands of the latter and infractions of treaty stipulations, and a civil war between opposing factions in the State of Panama was looked for daily. The revolution in the republic of Bolivia continued. Peru and Chile remained quiet. A number of colonists from the State of Missouri had arrived in Nicaragua.

By the arrival of the British West India mail steamer *Montezuma*, from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 8th inst., we have news from Jamaica dated to the 7th of March with interesting advices from some of the other West India Islands. Our thanks are due to Captain Hamshaw for his politeness in promptly forwarding our exchanges.It was rumored in Kingston, Jamaica, that all the British troops in Spanish Town were under orders to sail for Honduras, in consequence of a difficulty arising from the Emperor Maximilian's project of annexing the Colony to Mexico. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Keen were in Jamaica, en route to New York by way of Havana. They had given two readings before the Governor and *Séne* of the island. Trade was dull in Kingston. Great distress was felt in Barbadoes for want of a supply of American provisions. Admiral Sir James Hope, R. N., and Admiral Boscawen, of the French service, were to have had a naval conference at Barbadoes; but the French commander having waited for a considerable time, left for Martinique the day before the British officer arrived.

President Lincoln's health is so much improved that he was able to receive visitors yesterday and to attend a public entertainment in the evening.

Owing to the popularity and great success of the seven and three-tenths per cent national loan now being so rapidly absorbed, Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch will, it is said, shortly put on the market an additional one hundred and fifty millions of these bonds, differing from the present issue only in the particular that they will be redeemable or convertible one year later.

The testimony taken yesterday before the Senatorial Investigating Committee related principally to the letting of piers and ferry slips by the city authorities and the accounts with Mr. Blunt, chairman of the Supervisors' Volunteering Committee, for moneys paid to procure men for the army. Some of the piers and slips, it appeared, were let privately, and not exposed to general competition, as required by law. It was claimed that for these larger sums were received than could have been obtained if they had been put up at public auction. In the audit book for 1864 appeared an entry, "Testimonial to Orison Blunt, fifty thousand dollars." But it appeared that this money was not given to Mr. Blunt as a testimonial, it being designed to be, and being, paid by him as bonuses to volunteers.

At the opening of the Court of General Sessions yesterday Assistant District Attorney Bedford, with a view of expediting the transaction of business, stated that hereafter he would insist upon counsel furnishing legal excuse for the postponement of cases put on the calendar for trial. For some time past witnesses, jurors and the officers connected with the administration of justice have been put to great inconvenience by lawyers who neglect to confer with the prosecuting officer in reference to arranging their cases. Judge Russell intimated that he would compel counsel to bring themselves within the rule in the future. James McCabe was convicted of grand larceny, having stolen forty dollars from William

Porch, a returned volunteer, on the 25th of February. He was sent to the State Prison for two years. James Best (colored) was tried and convicted of burglary in the third degree, he having, in connection with a man named "Demerise Mike," broken into a liquor store in Worth street, on the 25th of February, and stolen therefrom a quantity of silver coin, which was found in his possession when arrested, a day or two afterwards. The detective who worked up the case having informed the Court that Best was a well known thief and burglar, the City Judge imposed the highest penalty the law allowed, which was five years' imprisonment in the State Prison.

The One Hundred and Third regiment of New York Volunteers, after a three years' term of service, reached this city from the seat of war on Tuesday night and had a public reception yesterday. They marched in procession through the principal streets, being escorted by Hawkins' Zouaves, the Ninth New York Volunteers. In the evening they were regaled with a supper in the bowery.

John P. Stockton, demagogue, son of Commodore Stockton, was yesterday elected United States Senator by the New Jersey Legislature, to succeed Mr. John C. Ten Eyck, republican.

The steamship *Osborne* Star having been detained at New Orleans for the purpose of transporting troops, the steamship *Liberty* will take her place in the line for this trip and will sail on Saturday next, 19th inst., at 3 P. M., for New Orleans, touching at Havana.

Alexander Miller, a Revolutionary soldier, died at Adams' Basin, thirteen miles from Rochester, N. Y., on last Tuesday morning, at the age of one hundred and five years.

By the accident on the New Orleans and Opelousas Railroad, on the 2d inst., heretofore noticed, upwards of fifty members of the Thirty-third Illinois Infantry were injured, ten of whom died soon after the catastrophe. The accident was caused by a horse which walked on to the track, the train being thrown off.

The Union State Convention of Rhode Island were in session in Providence, yesterday and the day before, and nominated their ticket for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and the other State officers. Governor James Y. Smith was renominated.

Gold was weak and feverish yesterday, and after opening at 177 sold down to 174½, from which it reacted, however, and closed down town at 177½. The stock market was comparatively firm. Governments were heavy. At the evening board gold again fell, and closed at 175½.

The large decline in gold completely unsettled the merchandise markets yesterday, and caused a large decline in all kinds of domestic produce. Cotton, petroleum, &amp;c., were dull, lower and nominal. On Change there was a perfect slough, particularly in provisions, pork having declined one dollar per barrel, while beef declined materially. Lard was ½c. lower, with only a moderate demand. The flour market was moderately active at lower rates. Wheat was 5c. a 10c. lower, while corn and oats were dull and depressed. Freights were exceedingly quiet. Whiskey was firm but not active.

## The Political Revolution—The New Epoch and the Prospects Before Us.

The late New Hampshire election, upon a diminished vote, has resulted in an increased republican majority over that of last November. A corresponding republican gain, in the same way, is indicated from the results of the late town elections in New York. Doubtless the causes of these democratic depressions are general and everywhere prevailing; nor need we go far for the explanation. The democratic party, as reorganized at Chicago, was demolished in November; its mission has ended, it has ceased to exist; its elements of opposition to the administration survive, but there is no bond or principle of cohesion among them. They are cast loose without a platform, without a leader and without a purpose.

In other words, the democratic party, torn asunder by the slavery agitation at the Charleston Convention of 1860, and reduced to the left wing of its original army, has been routed from every position it has since assumed on the slavery question, until, driven from its constitutional citadel, its vocation, as a pro-slavery conservative party, is at an end. So, too, the mission of the republican party, which was first the restriction, and next the extirpation of slavery, has been accomplished. This war, like Caesar, and the other great revolutionary leaders and guides of Louis Napoleon, has done in a few years the work of centuries of peace. In this single thing—the abolition of African slavery—we have passed the first stages of one of the most comprehensive and momentous political revolutions in the history of mankind. The superstructure and foundation of all our great political parties, the ruling political ideas among the people, of all classes and sections of this country, since its first recognition among the nations of the earth, are thrown down and superseded. We have no party leaders; we have no party issues; we have no party to-day in the field for 1868. The political elements adhering to the administration, as well as the opposition factions, are all adrift upon the surging waves of a mighty revolution.

This is our political situation to-day. We are in a transition state. With the suppression of the last remaining fragments of this tottering rebellion, our abridged politicians will begin to realize the change that is upon us. They will see the fallacy of all their petty schemes and plots for the Presidential succession, based upon old ideas, old party or sectional issues, and old cliques and cabals of defunct party managers. We have only to glance at the new order of things looming up into the foreground to be convinced of an inevitable reconstruction of parties and principles, involving new leaders, new lights and new candidates, in the interval to 1868.

A national debt of some three thousand millions, internal federal taxations, ranging from four to five hundred millions, the national currency and credit in all their various forms, the tremendous pressure of a great financial crisis, will probably convulse the country as with the throes of an earthquake. What shapes the contesting parties for the succession may assume upon these questions we cannot divine. Much will depend upon the policy of the administration upon this and other subjects, and much upon the chances of human life and the accidents of fortune, in the reconstruction of our domestic and foreign affairs. What course will be pursued in the restoration of the rebellious States; how far their active and intractable insurgents may be induced to remain or constrained to go into exile; what system for the reorganization of their black laboring population may be adopted; what schemes and adventures may follow for the rebuilding and recolonizing of the Southern States, have all yet to be developed. Whatever these developments may be they will exercise their influence in the reorganization of our political parties. But second only to the money question, if not the ruling issue, it is likely that the Mexican question and the Monroe doctrine will determine the issue of our next Presidential contest.

Here, at all events, are the upheavals and transformations of one of these great revolutions which mark a new epoch in the history of nations. It is impossible that the managing politicians of 1864, on either side, can rise to the control of this new programme. They will be superseded, as the Bourbons of the old kingdom of France were superseded by Napoleon and his marshals of the empire. The heroes of this war will be the heroes of the

peace that is coming; and the voice of the army will be the balance of power. In this view, John Van Buren, in recognizing the collapse of the Chicago democracy, has pointed to one of the heroes of the war, whose achievements furnish the required popularity and whose statesmanlike letters supply the necessary platform for a new and powerful opposition party. The events of the next six months, we suspect, will go far to determine the sagacity of this proposition and the shaping of the momentous campaign for the succession.

## The Situation in North Carolina—Sherman, Schofield and Johnston.

Sherman's army was encamped at Fayetteville, North Carolina, on the 11th inst., resting, preparatory to another northward march; and the latest news from Schofield leaves him in possession of Kinston. Sherman and Schofield were in communication by way of Wilmington and Newbern, even if they had no more direct route; so that they certainly understand each other, and the two forces are already moved by one will. Sherman, when he moves, will, from all appearance, move towards Goldsboro, and Schofield in the same direction; and Goldsboro is the point at which the two forces should concentrate, in view of the presence of a heavy force of the enemy to contend against. But Goldsboro itself is in the hands of that force, and thus the enemy apparently has the opportunity, if he has the will or the power, to fight the forces separately before a junction is possible. Has he the power to do so, and, if he has, is it probable that he will use it in that way?

From all appearance the enemy has between twenty and thirty thousand men near Goldsboro. This force is made up from what Bragg had at Wilmington and of the rebel Army of the Tennessee, now under Johnston. Doubtless the force that was in Charleston is there also. Altogether this is a very good body of troops, and will make a tough fight. An attempt has already been made with a portion of this force to check Schofield's advance. That attempt failed, and was a very dear one for the enemy. But, considering what a temptation this situation offers to the enemy, and how much it would help their resistance of Sherman if they could annihilate Schofield, it seems hardly possible that they will abandon that attempt without another battle. The blow already given by the enemy with this view was a premeditated and badly delivered one, and was not even given with the enemy's whole power. They will argue from that that a better result is possible with the means at hand even, and will try it again if there is time. Bragg has doubtless been withdrawn from Kinston to consolidate the whole force on some good field nearer to Goldsboro, and if that field is chosen by Johnston, and an offensive battle is given by the enemy under Johnston's direction, it will be a much more considerable affair than the recent attempt on Cox's lines by Hoke's division. It seems as if there could be no great disparity between the two forces; and the enemy have a great deal to gain by a victory.

On the other hand, they have a very great deal to lose by staying at Goldsboro, if any awkward event should chance to keep them there a little over their time; for then Sherman would be on them, as well as on the only lines by which the army under Johnston could ever join the army under Lee; and even a victory over Schofield would be dearly purchased by the defeat that Sherman would give Johnston, or even by Johnston's being forced so far from his true line of retreat that he would be separated from Lee by the army under Grant. Johnston and Bragg will stay at Goldsboro, in the hope to get a satisfactory battle out of Schofield, as a preliminary step to operations against Sherman—as a *sine qua non*, indeed, of any possible resistance of Sherman's advance; for, if Sherman and Schofield should form their junction safely, any attempt of the enemy to keep the field in North Carolina will be worse than hopeless. But while they stay to fight Schofield they will keep a very keen eye on Sherman, and if he should stride too rapidly up from Fayetteville, so as to give any chance that he would be in at the battle; or if he should stretch a threatening left too near to Raleigh, then the rebel heroes who now, in the language of the rebel papers, "prevent" the junction of Schofield and Sherman, will hurry away from Goldsboro with the most reckless haste.

They will do this, because the great, paramount and ultimate issue is necessarily of more importance than any lesser one can be, and simply to save so many men from a useless slaughter for a final chance by battle. If the junction of Sherman and Schofield cannot be prevented without risking the loss of the now important force under Johnston, then that junction will be permitted to take place; the enemy will abandon North Carolina entirely, as they have already done South Carolina, and every man that they now have in North Carolina will be concentrated in Virginia—perhaps on the Roanoke river—to swell the force that the enemy expects to concentrate for a last grand trial by battle. For to keep themselves in a condition to fight one more great battle, and to keep enough men in the field to give them a reasonable hope for success in that battle, is now the sole idea of the rebel leaders. Hence all minor chances will be thrown away when they appear to imperil that chance. If the concentration of Lee, Johnston, Bragg, Hardee and all others will give the enemy one hundred thousand veteran troops, and if those troops can, as the enemy hope, be concentrated at any point in Virginia between Grant and Sherman, so far from either army that they need fight but one at a time, then, certainly, there is some chance for their success. This is the last and only hope of the enemy; and this hope is a very slim one becomes apparent when we consider the number of "ifs" that one must use before the hope can be clearly stated.

## REMOVAL OF ANOTHER PEACE COMMISSION FROM RICHMOND.

We have the report, via Baltimore, that another peace commission from Richmond had made its appearance in front of General Grant's lines, or at City Point. We have no positive information on the subject; but we think it very likely that Jeff. Davis is making the discovery that he is driven to his "last ditch," and that there is no escape for him except such as he may secure by a timely submission to the fortunes of war.

His situation is certainly suggestive of the advantages of a capitulation without further resistance. He has a disheartened army, under General Lee, of forty or fifty thousand men, supported in North Carolina by the scattered forces of Joe Johnston, hardly exceeding forty

thousand men all told. Sherman is pushing these forces towards Richmond. Their only chance now depends upon a junction with Gen. Lee. But if Lee, in Richmond and Petersburg, cannot feel fifty thousand men, how is he to supply the rations for forty thousand more? In the next place, what can these ninety thousand men expect to do, behind Lee's intrenchments, without provisions, against the enveloping forces of Grant, amounting to two hundred thousand men?

These are the questions which Jeff. Davis is now called upon to consider; and having detained his two houses of Congress for a few days beyond their appointed time of adjournment, upon the plea of important business, it is possible that this business may be another peace conference. We expect, at all events, that Richmond, within a few days, will be surrounded or abandoned by Davis; and this, we have every reason to believe, will be the end of the war.

PUT DOWN PRICES.—Gold fell to 173 in Wall street yesterday, and afterwards rallied to 176. Several gold operators, unable to resist the pressure and the logic of events, broke down entirely. Thus, day by day, the premium comes down, and the failure of the speculators is good news to the people. Now that gold is down prices should come down also. Merchants and storekeepers were very willing to put prices up because gold went up; but now that the rule begins to work the other way they hesitate. Everybody remembers the old apology of the clerks in the various stores when customers complained of extravagant prices:—"Ah, sir or madam, we are obliged to regulate our prices by the premium on gold." The public accepted this logic, and submitted to the rise; but the storekeepers do not seem so anxious to "regulate their prices by the premium on gold," now that the premium is falling, falling, falling with every item of news from Grant, Sherman, Schofield and Sheridan. What is the cause of this delay? Gold is down; put down prices.

## AVOID THE DRAFT.—The draft was commenced in this city yesterday, and this morning the wheel will again turn out the names. We once more urge the committee which had charge of the recent celebration, the Union League clubs, the Union Defence Committee, the committees of the Grant meeting and all other public, private and political bodies to exert themselves to the utmost to bring in recruits. The same money and the same energy which are employed in getting up a grand celebration would fill our quota and enable us to have the grandest celebration of all. We can raise thousands for a parade; why cannot we raise an equal or greater sum for bounties? We can display the most astonishing enthusiasm in organizing a procession; why cannot we display the same spirit in collecting recruits? The means and the men are at hand, but the time is short. Come, gentlemen, to work!

## A SIGN.—Two produce houses in Philadelphia, and several gold operators in this city, failed yesterday. Things must come down. Stand from under. The people's turn is coming.

## THE NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY AMENDMENT—JOHN P. STOCKTON ELECTED UNITED STATES SENATOR.

TRENTON, N. J., March 15, 1865.

In the Senate, in the debate on the constitutional amendment, Mr. Randolph, of Hudson, denied that voting against it placed himself and others in the position of defending an institution the existence of which he deprecated and desired to dispose of as rapidly as humanity and a due regard to the rights of all permitted. Messrs. Chandler, of Morris, and Holman followed on the same side. The question was then postponed until to-morrow.

The joint meeting of both branches was held at three o'clock.

The rule to elect by majority was rescinded, and John P. Stockton was elected, having received forty votes.

Mr. Scovel, of Camden, nominated and voted for Frederick T. Frelinghuysen, of Essex. This nomination was received with applause. Mr. Doughty, of Somerset, nominated and voted for Mr. Vroom. Mr. Kennedy, of Monmouth, nominated and voted for John P. Stockton. Mr. Jenkins, of Union, nominated and voted for H. S. Little, of Monmouth.

A motion was made to adjourn sine die without an election, which was lost by a vote of 40 yeas against 41 nays.

The ballot for Senator stood as follows:—

John P. Stockton, dem., 40. Peter D. Vroom, 39. John C. Ten Eyck, rep., 37. H. S. Little, 36. Fred. T. Frelinghuysen, 1. James W. Wall, 1.

ITALIAN OPERA.—*Fra Diavolo* was given to a very good and fashionable house last night. It was unexpectedly sung, all the artists doing full justice to their rôles.We are glad to see that *Norma* will be produced this evening, as this opera affords an opportunity for those dramatic effects with which Mlle. Zucchi invests the character of the Druidess, and which have already stamped her rendition of it with the seal of public approbation. We regard *Norma* as one of Zucchi's very best parts.

Mr. Martzke announces—and we are very glad to have to record the fact—that he will be able to retain the services of his artist for two additional nights, and we will therefore have two more operas on Monday and Tuesday of next week. With a generosity which we hope the stockholders will gratefully appreciate, Martzke politely informs them that for these two nights their boxes and seats are at their disposal, without any charge, although we need hardly say that this privilege is not "so written in the bond."

It is a liberal but characteristic act on the part of Mr. Martzke, who, we are bound to say, has been ever willing to accommodate the stockholders as well as to provide most usefully for the pleasure of the public. We believe that we are to be introduced to a *débutante* on Monday night, in the person of Mlle. Stella Benoit, a Florentine, in *Linda*—a young lady whose fine, fresh, contralto voice, careful study and graceful person give fair assurance of success if she can judge of her own excellent merits of the part. To-morrow evening *I Pucier* will be given; and on Saturday the last grand *mattinée*, with *La Fura del Delirio*.BROADWAY THEATRE.—This week brings another variety and another success at this house. Mr. Owens appears in a new character—that of the old Toy-maker, Caleb Plummer, in Boucicault's delightfully dramatized version of the Cricket on the Hearth. The talent which Mr. Owens secured by his rendering of *Satan Stung* is enhanced by his delicate natural portraiture of the old toy-maker, and establishes his capacity for presenting old men with three fine touches of nature which at one time provoked a laugh, and in another moment a fluttering at the heart, and a certain moistness of the eyelid, which betokened a deeper emotion. Mr. Owens, in fact, in Caleb Plummer, makes a sensation—not in the ordinary use of that term, but something which is indicative of the mastery of the artist over the sensibilities of his audience. John, in the person of Mlle. Stella Benoit, a Florentine, in *Linda*—a young lady whose fine, fresh, contralto voice, careful study and graceful person give fair assurance of success if she can judge of her own excellent merits of the part. To-morrow evening *I Pucier* will be given; and on Saturday the last grand *mattinée*, with *La Fura del Delirio*.

## CONCERT BY THE TWENTY-SEVEN REGIMENT.—A concert will be given by this regiment at their armory, Fourth street, near Sixth avenue, on Saturday evening, for the benefit of the Ladies' Battery Barracks Relief Association. The concert is under the special auspices of several distinguished ladies, and will, no doubt, receive a very substantial support.

## EUROPE

The *Peruvian* at Portland with Two Days Later News.

The Report of the Fall of Charleston in England, but Not Published.

## DECLINE IN AMERICAN SECURITIES.

AFFAIRS IN ITALY.

The Anglo-Indian Telegraph at Work, &amp;c., &amp;c., &amp;c.

The steamship *Peruvian*, from Liverpool at half past one o'clock on the afternoon of the 2d, via Londonderry on the 3d inst., arrived at Portland at two o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Her news is two days later.

The Paris Bourse was firm at 87½. 60c. for the renter. The mother of the Queen of Holland died at the Hague, on the 1st inst.

The steamship *City of London* reached Liverpool early on the morning of the 2d inst.The steamship United Kingdom, bound for Portland, was passed by the *Peruvian* on the morning of the 11th inst.The steamship *St. David*, from Portland, arrived at Liverpool on the 2d inst.The steamship *Australasian*, from New York, arrived at Queenstown on the 3d inst.The *Peruvian*'s newspaper bag was forwarded by Adams Express, and will be due in New York this morning. Her mails were to be forwarded in this morning's train.

## The American Question.

The American news to Saturday, February 18, per the City of London exerted no material influence on the English markets.

The Australian's news to the 22d of February, reporting the capture of Charleston, had not transpired at the date of our latest telegrams from Liverpool.

## DECLINE IN AMERICAN SECURITIES—A LARGE SUPPLY OF STOCKS ON THE MARKET.

Messrs. Satterthwaite's circular, dated the evening of the 1st of March, reports a declining market for American securities, arising chiefly from a large supply of stock which has recently been received from America. Fifty-two bonds have